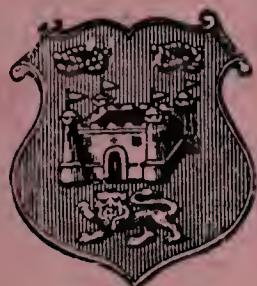


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BOROUGH OF STAFFORD



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

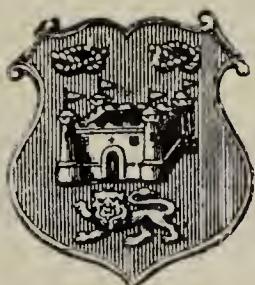
1937

H. B. BINKS, M.B.

STAFFORD:

ALLISON & BOWEN, LTD., 19 GREENGATE STREET

BOROUGH OF STAFFORD



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

1937

H. B. BINKS, M.B.

STAFFORD :

ALLISON & BOWEN, LTD., 19 GREENGATE STREET

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN : ALDERMAN MERREY.

VICE-CHAIRMAN : COUNCILLOR DR. MCINTOSH.

Alderman Adamson.	Councillor Moore.
,, Mrs. Turney.	,, Mrs. Robinson.
Councillor Mrs. Cotterill.	,, Thewlis.
,, Dawson.	,, Mrs. Welton.
,, Fowke.	,, Wilks.
,, Ibbs.	

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
Medical Superintendent Infectious Diseases Hospital, and
Medical Officer Infant Welfare Centre.
*†H. B. BINKS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

VETERINARY INSPECTOR,
Under Diseases of Animals Acts,
W. G. THOMSON, M.R.C.V.S.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.
Lodging-house Inspector, Inspector under the Canal Boats Act, and
Inspector under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.
*JAMES H. DRURY, Cert. R. San. Inst.,
and Certificated Meat Inspector.
(Retired, May 7th, 1937)

*I. O. WILLIAMS, Cert. R. San. Inst.,
and Certificated Meat Inspector.

(Appointed Senior Sanitary Inspector as from May 8th, 1937)

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS,
*H. E. T. LOWBRIDGE, Cert. S.I.B.
and Certificated Meat Inspector.

*S. A. GREGORY, Cert. S.I.B.

(Appointed Additional Sanitary Inspector as from May 8th, 1937)

HEALTH VISITORS,
and Assistant Sanitary Inspectors,
*MISS C. E. SUFFIELD, H.V. & S.I. Certs. R.S.I.
Cert. Cent. Midwives Board.
*MISS E. E. BRIGGS, S.R.N., H.V., & M. & C. W. Certs
R.S.I., Cert. Cent. Midwives Board

MATRON OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL,
MRS. IDA HOME.

SENIOR CLERK,
R. FOWELL.

JUNIOR CLERK,
G. E. SHEWARD.

*Salaries contributed to under Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants. All are whole-time Officers, except the Veterinary Inspector, and that the Health Visitors devote a portion of their time to work under the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Committee for Tuberculosis.

†Services of the Medical Officer of Health by arrangement are available to the County for School Medical Duties for four sessions per week.

BOROUGH HEALTH OFFICE,
5, MARTIN STREET,
STAFFORD.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Public Health Committee.

3rd May, 1938.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Sixty-fourth Annual Report on the Health of the people and the sanitary condition of your Borough.

The report is drawn up in accordance with the instructions laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1650 dated 4th October, 1937.

Statistics for the year make a favourable showing. The Registrar-General has estimated an increase of 610 in the population. The birth rate is the highest since 1929, and the Infantile Mortality Rate establishes a new record for the Borough.

It is a matter for regret that no decision has been reached as to the Isolation Hospital, as it is very desirable that increased provision be made for bed isolation at our present Hospital.

Provision has been made for an emergency team to visit maternity cases too ill to be moved to Hospital. Increasing use is being made of the Council's Domiciliary Scheme for Expectant Mothers, and the attendances made at the Welfare Centre are higher. The approval of the plans for, and the fact that sites have been discussed and practically determined, suggest that a new Welfare Centre is almost a practical probability during the next twelve months.

No substantial progress has been made to meet the housing needs of the district, although the probable acquisition of land in the Silkmore Lane area by the Council does suggest that a start will soon be made.

In May last Mr. Williams was appointed as Senior Sanitary Inspector on the retirement of Mr. Drury, who had been an official with this Corporation for twenty-one years. Of a retiring disposition, his tactful persuasion was the principal reason for the success he achieved. The Health Department will miss his kindly guidance, and I shall always regret that his scheme for dealing with North Walls was not carried through during his term of office.

Thanks are due to you, Mr. Chairman, and the Members of the Committee for help and criticism during the past twelve months. To my colleagues and the Staff generally I wish to express appreciation, and my indebtedness to them for their loyal support.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. B. BINKS.

REPORT

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

General Statistics.

Area of Borough	5,080 acres
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (1937)	31,680
Density of population or number of persons per acre (1937)	6.2
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books	7,618
Rateable value (31st March, 1937) ...	£187,354
Sum represented by a penny rate (1936/1937)	£746/10/-

Social Conditions.

Mr. A. Weaver, Manager of the Employment Exchange, has supplied me with the following information :—

“ The chief industries, trades and occupations of Stafford are as under :—

	Number of Insured Workpeople Employed.				
	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total
Electrical Engineering	2267	601	528	350	3746
Internal Combustion Engines	502	45	109	25	781
Locomotive Engineering ...	559	9	169	20	757
Boot and Shoe	945	1062	95	389	2491
Wood Heel Manufacture ...	107	126	5	27	265
Emery Wheel Manufacture	597	84	32	42	755
Wire for reinforced concrete	301	76	18	44	439
Building	714	26	68	11	819
Distributing Trades	841	476	185	150	1652
Local Government Service	1819	69	33	14	1935

“ The total insurable population in the area is 16,894.

“ The year which ended on 31st December, 1937, showed the local employment situation to be still favourable ; whereas on the 21st December, 1936, there were 473 persons unem-

ployed in the Borough (representing 2.96 of the insured population); on the 20th December, 1937 there were 620 persons (representing 3.67% of the insured population) registered as unemployed at the local employment exchange.

"On the same date the percentage of unemployment for the whole of the country was 12%.

"The peak figure of unemployment during the year in Stafford occurred on the 13th December, 1937, when the live register of unemployed reached 667, as against 872 on 20th January, 1936.

"Whilst the figure of 620 unemployed (on 20/12/1937) is larger than a year ago, it should be borne in mind that there are still 798 more persons employed in Stafford than at the end of the year 1936.

"All industries within the Borough may be regarded as satisfactory. In the engineering sections trade continues steady with a continual flow of orders received by manufacturers; the shortage of workers is not so acute as a year ago, but the importation of men for skilled engineering occupations still continues. A number of men and boys from the depressed areas have been found progressive employment during the year."

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS.

	Male	Female	Total
Total Live Births	243	224	467
Legitimate	239	214	253
Illegitimate	4	10	14

Birth Rate per 1,000 population 14.8

Birth Rate per 1,000 population, for the 148 Smaller Towns of England and Wales, 15.3.

	Male	Female	Total
Total Still Births	11	7	18
Legitimate	10	5	15
Illegitimate	1	2	3

Still Birth Rate: 38 per 1,000 births.

" " " 0.56 per 1,000 population.

" " " 0.64 for the 148 Smaller Towns of England and Wales, per 1,000 population.

A table for the last seven years, including 1931 when the lowest rate was recorded, follows.

Year	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Still Births	Still Birth Rate	Birth Rate for Smaller Towns of England & Wales
1931 ...	348	11.8	18	49	15.6
1932 ...	408	13.8	19	44	15.4
1933 ...	383	13.0	23	57	14.5
1934 ...	394	12.9	20	48	15.0
1935 ...	429	13.8	14	32	14.8
1936 ...	395	12.7	19	46	15.0
1937 ...	467	14.8	18	38	15.3

Total M. F.
DEATHS: 363 201 162 Recorded Death Rate 11.4.

The death rate is affected by the age and sex of the population concerned, being higher among an elderly population and also, to some extent, among males as compared with females of similar age.

The Registrar-General supplies a "Comparability Factor" to each district based on the age and sex of its population as shown at the last Census. When the recorded death rate of a town is multiplied by this factor the corrected death rate is obtained. This is truly comparable with the death rate of any town similarly treated.

The factor for correction for Stafford is 1.03 and the corrected **Death Rate is 11.7**, compared with 11.9 for the 148 Smaller Towns and 11.1 for Stafford last year.

The causes of death are shown below :—

Causes of death.	Total	Males	Females	WARDS.				
				North	South	East	West	Baswich
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ...	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Measles	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	19	10	9	4	7	6	2	—
Encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	24	18	6	7	5	5	6	1
Other tuberculous diseases	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Syphilis.....	3	3	1	—	1	1	1	—
General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Cancer, malignant disease	45	25	20	10	10	7	14	4
Diabetes	6	5	1	—	2	2	2	—
Cerebral hemorrhage	14	9	5	2	5	4	6	—
Heart disease	80	42	38	16	20	18	22	3
Aneurysm.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other circulatory diseases	27	12	15	7	9	7	6	2
Bronchitis.....	10	7	3	—	1	5	2	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	26	14	12	8	6	6	8	—
Other respiratory diseases	4	3	1	1	—	1	1	2
Peptic ulcer	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Appendicitis.....	2	1	1	—	1	—	1	1
Cirrhosis of liver	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Other diseases of liver, etc.	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other digestive diseases	6	4	2	—	—	2	—	—
Acute and chronic nephritis	11	7	4	1	2	5	3	1
Puerperal sepsis	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Other puerperal causes	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	8	4	4	3	—	2	1	2
Senility	23	8	15	5	4	8	4	1
Suicide	5	2	3	—	1	—	2	1
Other violence	6	4	2	1	3	1	1	1
Other defined deseases	32	16	16	2	5	11	10	—
Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL DEATHS	363	201	162	69	83	95	94	22

The figures for males and females in the above table are supplied by the Registrar-General, and those for the different Wards are compiled locally. The discrepancy between these two sets of figures is explained by the fact that the classification of some deaths by the Registrar-General is modified in the light of fuller information obtained from the certifying practitioner in response to special enquiries.

142, or 39.1%, of the deaths took place at ages of 70 years and over.

Cancer of the digestive system, besides affecting all age groups, provided the largest number of cases. As in 1936, the age group, 45—65 years, was most severely attacked.

Age group	Total	Cancer of						
		Buccal cavity and pharynx	Digestive organs and peritoneum	Breast	Uterus	Other genital urinary	Other or un- specified organs	Respiratory organs
5—15 Male	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Female	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 Male	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Female	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—45 Male	3	1	2	—	—	1	—	—
Female	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—65 Male	10	—	3	—	—	2	3	2
Female	11	—	4	1	2	1	1	1
65 + Male	11	—	7	—	—	2	2	—
Female	8	—	5	1	1	1	—	—
	45	—	21	3	3	7	7	3
								1

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.—Three deaths were due to zymotic diseases, giving a rate of 0.09 as compared with 0.16, the average for the preceding ten years.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 1

„ „ Typhoid Fever (all ages) 1

„ „ Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ... 1

Total Zymotic Deaths, 3.

Death rates from the main causes are :—

Heart disease (80 cases) 2.53

Cancer (45 cases) 1.42

Bronchitis, Pneumonia, etc. (40 cases) 1.27

Cerebral haemorrhage (14 cases) 0.45

Tuberculosis (all forms) (25 cases) 0.79

Old age (23 cases) 0.73

Violence (11 cases) 0.26

— 7.45

All other causes (125 cases) 3.95

Total 11.40

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY
 { England and Wales, 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns,
 in the year, 1937.
 } and 148 Smaller Towns.

	RATE PER 1,000 POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.
		All Causes.	Stili births	Live births	Still births	Live births	Measles.	Small-pox	Typhoid & Paratyphoid fevers.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	
England and Wales	14.9	0.60	12.4	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.45	0.54	5.8	58
London	13.3	0.54	12.3	0.00	—	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.38	0.51	12.0	60
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	14.9	0.67	12.5	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.39	0.45	7.9	62
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	15.3	0.64	11.9	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.42	0.42	3.2	55
STAFFORD	14.8	0.56	11.4	0.03	—	0.03	—	—	—	0.59	0.26	2.1	29.9
												91.2	4.4
												—	—

Puerperal Sepsis. Others. Total.
 { per 1,000 Live Births ... 0.97 2.26 3.23
 } , , Total Births 0.94 2.17 3.11

There were two maternal death in Stafford during the year.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child birth :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis	1	2.0
Other puerperal causes	1	2.0
Total	2	4.0

Death rate of Infants under one year of age :—There were 14 deaths (7 males, 7 females), one of whom was an illegitimate child.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	29.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			28.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			71.4

The infant mortality rate of 29.9 is the lowest that has yet been recorded for this Borough.

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR.

Causes of Death.	Total deaths under 1 year						
	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	1-3 months	6-9 months	9-12 months
Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	2	—	3
Gastro-Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Premature Birth	3	—	—	3	—	—	3
Congenital Malformation	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Icterus neonatorum	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
Hemorrhagic Jaundice.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	4	1	1	—	6	3	2
						1	2
							14

Ward Distribution:— North 3, South 1, East 4, West 4, Baswich 2

The following table gives the infant mortality for 1937 and for the previous ten years.

Year	Births	Under one month.		Under one year.	
		Deaths	Rate per 1000 births	Deaths	Rate per 1000 births
1927	455	12	26	22	48
1928	434	15	35	26	60
1929	446	13	29	28	63
1930	411	9	22	22	53
1931	348	12	34	22	63
1932	408	18	44	27	66
1933	383	16	42	23	60
1934	394	13	33	20	51
1935	429	8	19	16	37
1936	395	17	43	24	60
Average for 10 yrs.	410.3	13.3	32.7	23.0	56.1
1937	467	6	12.8	14	29.9

The deaths of children for the past ten years, 221 in all, under one year of age have been collated and divided into two age groups, so that it may be known over a period of time those conditions and diseases which contribute most severely to our infant mortality rate and the time at which they operate.

Table recording the causes of infant deaths for years 1928 to 1937.

	Deaths under 1 month.	Total deaths under 1 year.
Prematurity	61	67
Congenital malformations	19	33
Debility, marasmus.....	7	10
Injury at birth.....	9	10
Atelectasis	3	4
Inattention at birth	4	4
Icterus neonatorum.....	2	2
Jaundice, haemorrhagic	2	2
Malæna neonatorum	1	1
Diseases of umbilicus	1	1
Intussusception	1	1
Intestinal obstruction.....	1	1
Congenital Syphilis	—	1
Meningitis, all forms	—	3
Tuberculosis of lungs	—	1
Tuberculosis, meninges and mesentery	1	4
Influenza	—	1
Pneumonia	5	32
Bronchitis.....	4	10
Measles	—	1
Whooping Cough.....	—	4
Gastro Enteritis, including gastritis and diarrhoea	3	8
Peritonitis.....	—	2
Convulsions	2	6
Violence	—	6
Other causes.....	3	6

Thus, of the 129 deaths which occur in the first month of life, prematurity, 61 cases, congenital malformations, 19 cases, and congenital debility, 7 cases, account for 67 per cent. Last year was indeed fortunate in this respect, five deaths only occurred in this age group, three of which were due to prematurity.

In the group comprising the ages, 1 to 12 months, prematurity, congenital malformations, and debility, account for 35 per cent, i.e., 33 deaths. Pneumonia, Bronchitis, 35 per cent. Tuberculosis and Meningitis, 8 per cent., and the infectious diseases, violence, and digestive ills, all take their toll. Again for the year, 1937, the Borough has been favoured, eight deaths only, and, of these only four were due to Influenza and Pneumonia, although these diseases were very prevalent in the Spring.

STILL-BIRTHS.—Eighteen still births took place, giving a rate of 38 per 1,000 births (including still-born). Eleven were males and seven females.

DEATHS OF CHILDREN FROM 1—5 YEARS.—There were six deaths at these ages. Two were due to Pneumonia; the others to Tubercular Meningitis, "Pink" disease, Pneumococcal Meningitis, and Enteritis.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Home Nursing.

The general nursing of the district is provided by the Stafford District Nurses' Society, Tipping Street. The Society also provides nursing for cases of Measles and other ailments of the young when requested by the Medical Officer of Health to do so, and receives an annual grant from the Council for this. During the year 23 cases were nursed under this arrangement, and 721 visits were made to them.

Midwives.

The Council does not employ or subsidise practising midwives. Nine midwives practised in the Borough during 1937, all of whom were certificated.

Laboratory Facilities.

The examination or analysis of clinical material (sputum, swabs, etc.), water, milk, and foodstuffs is carried out by the County Bacteriologist and the County Analyst at the County Laboratories, Martin Street, Stafford.

Adoptive Acts, etc., in Force in the District.

LOCAL ACTS.

Stafford Corporation Acts of 1876, 1880, and 1896.

ADOPTIVE ACTS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.	Date of Adoption.
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890	... 1891
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890	... 1891
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Parts II., IV., VI., and X.	1923
Public Health Act, 1925, Part II. (except Section 34)	1926

BYE-LAWS.	Date of Adoption or Revision.
Water Closets (made under Stafford Corporation Act, 1896)	... ... ... ... ... 1897
Offensive Trades	... ... ... ... ... 1923
Slaughterhouses	... ... ... ... ... 1927
Common Lodging Houses	... ... ... ... ... 1927
Prevention of Nuisances	... ... ... ... ... 1928
New Streets and Buildings and the Drainage of Existing Buildings	... ... ... ... ... 1936

Hospitals.

STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY, FOREGATE STREET.—The hospital has been enlarged as to accommodation by the provision of 14 beds for private patients, of 20 beds for adults, and 14 beds for children, and the equipment for X-ray, Sunlight, and Massage has been brought up to date. The cost of the above to the Hospital has been over £30,000.

No alterations have been reported for the year under review as to Marston Road Institution, County Mental Hospital, Coton Hill Mental Hospital, and the Borough Isolation Hospital.

SMALL POX HOSPITAL, MOXLEY.—The Corporation are members of the South Staffordshire Joint Small Pox Hospital Board, and are thus part proprietors of the Small Pox Hospital at Moxley, to which any cases of the disease are admitted.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Local cases are treated in the institutions provided by the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton, and Dudley Joint Committee for Tuberculosis.

MATERNITY HOSPITALS.—Nil.

ORTHOPÆDIC.—Cases requiring operative treatment are admitted to the hospitals at Hartshill and Standon Hall.

Institution for Homeless Children.

The Cottage Homes in Stone Road have accommodation for 60 children.

Ambulance Facilities.

Two ambulances are maintained by the Local Authority, one of which is used solely for accident and emergency cases, and the other for cases of infectious disease. Application should be made to the Police, Stafford (tel. No. 1, Stafford).

The total number of journeys made by both ambulances in 1937 was 396 covering 2,922 miles.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.—At the Wesley Schools, Queen Street, provided by the Borough Council and staffed by the Public Health Department, with assistance from the Guild of Social Welfare. This centre is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon, and from 2 to 4 p.m.

MINOR AILMENTS CLINIC.—In response to Circular 1550, which was issued by the Minister during 1936, the Welfare Committee recommended the opening of the Centre daily from 9 to 10 a.m. for the treatment of minor ailments.

SCHOOL CLINIC.—For minor ailments, dental, ear, nose and throat, and ophthalmic. In Lammascote Road. Provided by the County Education Committee.

ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.—In premises situated in Sandon Road. Provided by the Stafford Cripples Centre. The arrangements under which Child Welfare cases are able to benefit under this are mentioned under Maternity and Child Welfare.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHT CLINIC.—Artificial light treatment is available at the General Infirmary.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.—In Mill Bank, provided by the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Committee for Tuberculosis.

VENEREAL DISEASES.—The County Council have now opened a clinic at the Staffordshire Infirmary. The other nearest clinics are those provided by the Staffordshire County Council at Wolverhampton and Stoke-on-Trent. Particulars can be obtained from the M.O.H. at 5, Martin Street.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The Borough Surveyor states :—

“ Boring operations for a new source of water supply are still proceeding. A well 7ft. diameter and 250 ft. deep has been sunk, and the work of driving headings to augment the yield is proceeding.”

The Council during the year instructed (1) that the Health Department should be informed as to any alterations or repairs which are contemplated at the Water Works, and (2) that samples of water should be submitted monthly for bacteriological examination and three-monthly for chemical analysis.

Reports on the water are obtained from the County Analyst and the County Bacteriologist, and have always been entirely satisfactory. The following are the latest reports :—

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION.		Parts per 100,000
Total Solid matter dried at 212°F	...	31.5
Free and saline ammonia	...	Nil
Albuminoid ammonia	...	0.0037
Nitric Nitrogen	...	0.30
Chlorine	...	5.4
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F	...	0.012
Appearance	...	Clear
Injurious metallic contamination	...	None
pH. Value	...	7.5
Hardness before boiling	...	12.20°
Hardness after boiling	...	5.85°
Temporary hardness	...	6.35°

This water maintains its excellent quality chemically.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.	Colonies per ml.
On nutrient agar after 48 hours' incubation at 37°C	2
On nutrient agar after 72 hours' incubation at 20—22°C	8
Coli aerogenes content (presumptive coli) after 48 hours' incubation at 37°C	None per 100ml.

"The Ministry of Health Report No. 71 suggests that when a Public water supply contains not more than two presumptive coli per 100 ml. the sample may be regarded as reasonably satisfactory."

"Judging by this sample, the very high bacteriological standard of this supply is still maintained."

Samples of water from seven wells, supplying fourteen houses, were submitted for chemical and bacteriological analysis. The water from five of the wells supplying 10

houses, was found to be unfit for drinking. Notices were served, and at the end of the year the town water supply was provided for six houses.

At the end of the year there were ten wells within the Borough. The number of houses (including houses dependent on well water) which have no internal water supply was 64.

Swimming Bath.

This, which is owned by the Corporation, is recognised as one of the best in the Midlands. It is 80 feet long by 35 feet wide. Daily records are kept of tests for free chlorine and alkalinity. Foot baths and showers are provided.

Mr. Scott, the Manager of the Baths reports :—

“The medicated baths, viz. —Brine, Pine Aeration and Zotofoam baths are steadily becoming more popular and benefiting more and more patrons each year. The Brine Swimming Bath has enjoyed a record attendance this year owing chiefly to the Bath Committee’s foresight in sanctioning Mixed Bathing.

“The Fresh-water Swimming Bath has this year been repainted and provides an ideal amenity to our Keep Fit Campaign. The water has been maintained at its usual high standard of purity and clarity being constantly circulated, filtered, aerated and chlorinated.”

In the same building are the **Stafford Corporation Royal Brine Baths** which provide excellent facilities for the treatment of the various forms of Rheumatism under the supervision of the Honorary Consulting Physician, J. MacDonald Holmes, M.D., M.R.C.P.

In a report presented to the Baths Committee the Hon. Physician pointed out that many patients were sent for treatment at the Brine Baths who were not necessarily going to receive any permanent benefit thereby, and, to avoid disappointment, it would be preferable that facilities should be available for a full clinical investigation of any case recommended by the patient’s Doctor. Agreement has been reached on these lines by the Staffordshire General Infirmary, the Borough, and the representatives of the Birmingham Hospitals Contributory Scheme. This is certainly a step in the right direction, and in the course of time such investigations will become a routine for all persons suffering from rheumatic complaints.

Rivers and Streams.

The water courses in the Borough have been kept under observation. The Inspectors deal with any cases of foul water discharging into surface drains which they discover in the course of their inspections.

The contamination of the river by brine still continues. It finds its way into the watercourses, particularly the Pearl Brook, and eventually empties into the river. This contamination has more than one source, the most serious being from the tips of waste salt chipped from the pans, etc., at Salt Works.

Samples are taken from the Sow and Penk for the Standing Committee on River Pollution in July and September.

Conclusions reached by the Committee from the Survey for 1936 read as follows —

"The condition of the Penk was fairly good, and the pollution usually evident below the confluence of the Sow and the Penk was not observed during the July survey and was less serious than usual in September.

"The large volume of water in the river in July probably explains the absence of pollution at this point."

Drainage and Sewerage.

The following new sewers were completed during the year :—

SEWAGE SEWERS.

BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

9" diameter	815 yards
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----------

BY THE DEVELOPERS OF PRIVATE ESTATES.

9" diameter	1,215 yards
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------------

2,030 yards

SURFACE WATER SEWERS.

BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

9" diameter	280 yards
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----------

BY THE DEVELOPERS OF PRIVATE ESTATES.

9" diameter	1,116 yards
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------------

1,396 yards

Closet Accommodation.

There are approximately 1,235 waste water closets in the Borough, 50 pail closets, and 17 privy middens. 45 of the pail and privy middens are situated in the portions of the Borough where no sewer is available.

During the year 143 houses had the foul water drains connected to the public sewer in place of cesspits.

The number of waste water closets substituted by a pedestal type of W.C. for the last five years is as follows :— 1933, 46 ; 1934, 60 ; 1935, 113 ; 1936, 54 ; 1937, 111.

The number of closets or drains obstructed during the year shows a decrease. This is the result of the number of waste water closets substituted by a pedestal type of closet.

The number of stoppages amounted to 1095, and 716 of this number were in connection with waste water closets.

The grant of 50/- to certain owners of property, who substitute a waste water closet by a pedestal type of W.C., was still allowed during the year. The department encourages owners to avail themselves of the offer, as when this type of closet is not in proper working order, they give rise to a serious nuisance.

There are approximately 109 houses in the Borough without a separate sanitary convenience.

Scavenging.

During the year the Health Department served 242 notices for the replacement of worn out dustbins. With the exception of the houses with privy middens, all the premises in the Borough have a metal galvanized dustbin with a close fitting cover, the contents of which are collected weekly.

The collection and disposal of refuse is under the supervision of the Borough Engineer.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

	No. of		Notices.		Notices complied with.	
	Inspec- tions	Defects	Informal 1	Statutory 2	1	2
Visits to dwelling-houses	3414	...	...	...	...	...
Houses requiring cleansing .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Structural defects ...	115	175	68	3	40	3
Housing Acts	533	...	34	5	17	17
Lodging-houses	10	...	...	...	...	...
Factories & Workshops	103	19	19	...	12	...
Dairies & Milkshops	137	1	1	...	1	...
Cowsheds	75	23	15	...	13	...
Bakehouses	30	8	8	...	7	...
Slaughterhouses	1239	4	4	...	4	...
Fried Fish Shops ...	69	1	1	...	1	...
Canal Boats .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ashpits & want of receptacles for refuse.	582	312	242	22	205	20
Deposits of refuse & manure	29	2	2	...	2	...
Water Closets	194	160	111	17	53	8
House drainage defects	116	86	61	4	39	3
Water supply	14	6	5	1	3	...
Animals improperly kept .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Offensive Trades other than Fried Fish Shops	10	1	1	...	1	...
Defective yard pavements	6	5	5	...	2	...
Other nuisances	25	18	15	...	9	...
Overcrowding	3172	...	...	...	...	...
Closet stoppages cleared .....	...	1095	...	...	...	...
	19873	1916	592	52	415	51

Precautions against Infectious Disease:—

Lots of infected bedding disinfected or destroyed ... 35
 Houses disinfected after infectious disease ... 46

Number of visits made by Sanitary Inspectors with regard to cases of infectious disease 134

Smoke Abatement.

A petition was received, which was signed by 109 householders, complaining of the smoke and soot emission from the chimneys of three works in their neighbourhood.

The houses occupied by the householders have been constructed on the site during the last three years, and the works have been there for a number of years.

The three works are situated in close proximity to each other, and there are 22 chimney stacks. With the exception of one plant, the combustion of fuel is not for steam raising. The heat is required to evaporate brine to produce the product manufactured.

Observations were made, and the managers interviewed. Some improvement was noted with regard to the emission of black smoke.

During the year 95 observations were recorded of the smoke emitted from chimney stacks in the Borough.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-Laws and Regulations.

Milk Producers	...	...	...	...	16
Producer-retailers of milk	...	...	...	...	11
Retail purveyors of milk in the Borough					73
Retail purveyors of milk whose premises are outside the Borough					22
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	2
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	29
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	10
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	35

Offensive Trades.

There are 29 offensive trades on the Register, of which 25 are fried fish shops. The remainder consists of 1 fell-monger, 1 rag and bone merchant, and 2 gut scrapers.

Premises where fish frying is done have been conducted with little reason for complaint.

Factory and Workshop Act.

INSPECTIONS. 75 inspections of Factories and 58 of Workshops and Workplaces were made. 27 defects were discovered, and action taken to have these remedied.

HOMEWORK.—Lists of outworkers were received as follows :—

Wearing Apparel (making)

(Once a year) 6 lists relating to 12 workmen.
(Twice a year) 6 lists relating to 6 workmen.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.—The workshops on the Register at the end of the year were :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dressmaking	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cycle and motor repairing	...	...	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	39
						—
						68

Miss Suffield, Health Visitor, in addition to her other duties, carried out inspections in 17 factories and 3 work-rooms where women were employed, and reported 5 defects.

I.—INSPECTION.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspec-tions.	Written Notices.	Prosecu-tions.
FACTORIES			
(Including Factory Laundries)	...	75	2
WORKSHOPS			
(Including Workshop Laundries)	43	2	—
WORKPLACES			
(Other than Outworkers' premises)	15	—	—
Total	133	4	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecu- tions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.*				
Want of cleanliness	6	5	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances ...	7	7	—	—
SANITARY ACCOMMODA- TION.				
Insufficient	1	1	—	—
Unsuitable or de- fective	13	6	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORK- SHOP ACTS.				
Illegal occupation of underground bake- house (s. 101) ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
Total	27	19	—	—

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1925.

No samples under the above Acts were taken during the year.

The number of upholsterers in the Borough is three, and the flock received was obtained under warranty that the standard of cleanliness required by the Acts was complied with.

Rag Gatherers.

Proceedings were instituted against a man seen to give a toy to a person under the age of fourteen years, in exchange for rags, contrary to Section 154, Public Health Act, 1936.

The defendant appeared before the Magistrates, and was fined £1.

Common Lodging Houses.

Three applications were received under Section 238, Public Health Act, 1936. The three premises had been registered Common Lodging Houses since the years 1894, 1895, and 1896 respectively.

The Health Committee considered a report made on each of the premises, and granted registration in two instances on condition that certain improvements were carried out. In the third case, registration was refused, as the premises were in such a dilapidated condition as to be unfit.

Cinemas, etc.

Visits have been paid to these premises. In two instances defects were found in connection with the sanitary conveniences, and the work necessary was immediately done.

Sanitary Conveniences provided at Inns and Refreshment Houses.

68 visits were paid, and defects found or lack of cleanliness were rectified.

Shops.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector has been appointed to carry out the sanitary provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, the Shop Inspector having agreed to report any cases of shops where it appears to him that the sanitary arrangements are not satisfactory.

Cemetery.

During the year the Council have considered proposals for the extension of the Cemetery.

Schools.

A sanitary survey of each school is made three times a year by the School Medical Inspector, whose reports are considered by the Education Authority, any necessary action being taken.

When absence from school is suspected to be due to illness, duplicate reports are sent by the Head Teacher to the Deputy School Medical Officer and to the M.O.H. Where necessary the School Nurse visits the home to investigate.

Convalescents from infectious disease and contacts who have been excluded from school, are reported to the Deputy School Medical Officer by the M.O.H., and are seen by one of the Medical Inspectors at the School Clinic before being allowed to return to school.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of New Houses Erected during the Year.

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	...	...	...	...	...	451
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	102
(2) By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	0
(3) By other bodies and persons	...	...	...	...	...	349
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts :						
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	102
(2) By other bodies and persons	...	...	...	...	...	0

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	1706
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	2684
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	236
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	...	...	...	...	...	533
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...					70
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...					381

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	207
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

3. Action Taken under Statutory Powers during the Year.

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :				
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	5
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices				
(a) By owners	...	...	...	17
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	0

B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...

	...	55
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices		
(a) By owners	...	...
	...	44
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners		0
C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	8
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	39
D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...
	...	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	0

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of year	...	...	...	...	105
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...				107
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...				845
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...			2
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...		52
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	372
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...		0
Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by Local Authority abated during the year	...	...	...	...	18
Number of houses in which overcrowding was abated under Sections 19 and 20 Housing Act, 1930	...	...	...	...	0

Slum Clearance.

During the year four Clearance Areas (containing 48 houses, 49 families, with a population of 169 persons) have been represented to the Local Authority. Confirmation of two Compulsory Purchase Orders were received.

In addition, 24 individual houses were represented to the Local Authority as unfit for human habitation. Of this number, 11 houses were owned by the Corporation, and are part of a voluntary clearance.

Overcrowding.

The construction of 26 houses for the re-housing of overcrowded families was commenced at the latter end of the year. They consist of 6 houses with five bedrooms, 12 houses with four bedrooms, 5 houses with three bedrooms and three houses with two bedrooms.

The houses referred to above as consisting of four and five bedrooms are known locally as "Elastic Houses." Basically, they consist of two houses, the upper rooms of which are so arranged that they can be assigned to either house. By the courtesy of the Borough Surveyor, I am able to reproduce plans of this type of house.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council houses found to be infested	16
Number of other houses found to be infested ...	34
Number of houses disinfested	50

When a house is found to be infested with bugs, the walls, floors, and contents of the rooms are sprayed with an insecticide on two occasions at intervals of seven days. The bedding, if found to be infested, is removed to the cleansing station where it is steam disinfected in a Washington Lyon steam disinfecter.

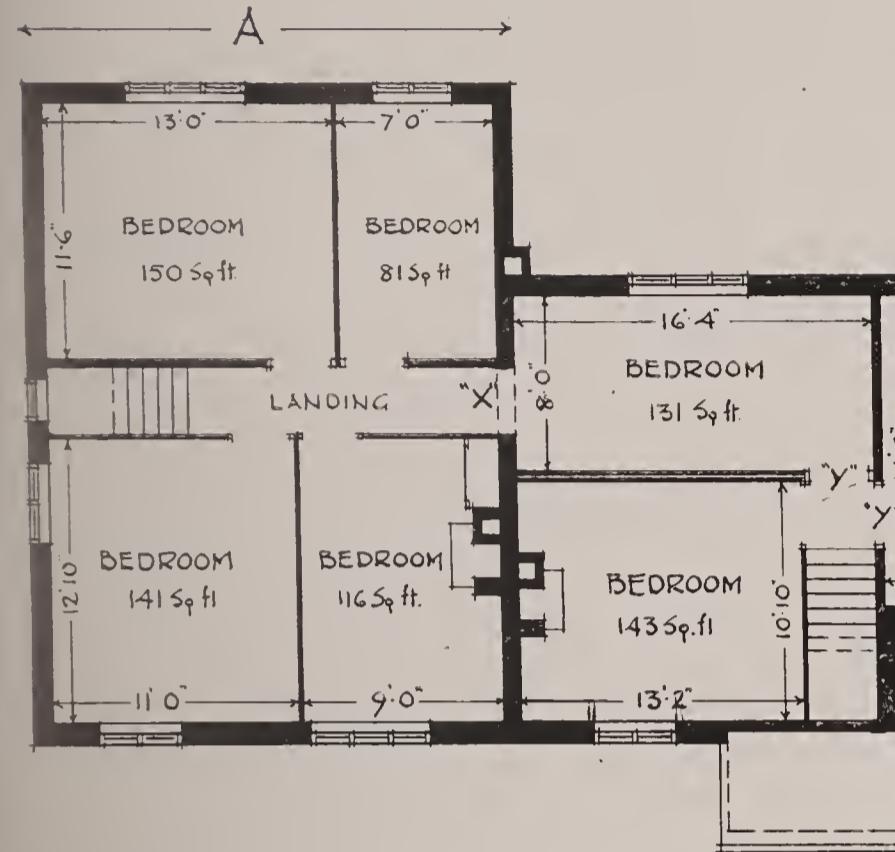
If a house is found to be infested, the tenant having obtained a Council house, the furniture is removed in a container to the Corporation Depot, the furniture fumigated for at least six hours, and returned to the new house, the bedding being treated by steam.

Some families have very little furniture for removal, and, on these occasions, the furniture is placed in one room, and there fumigated.

All disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.

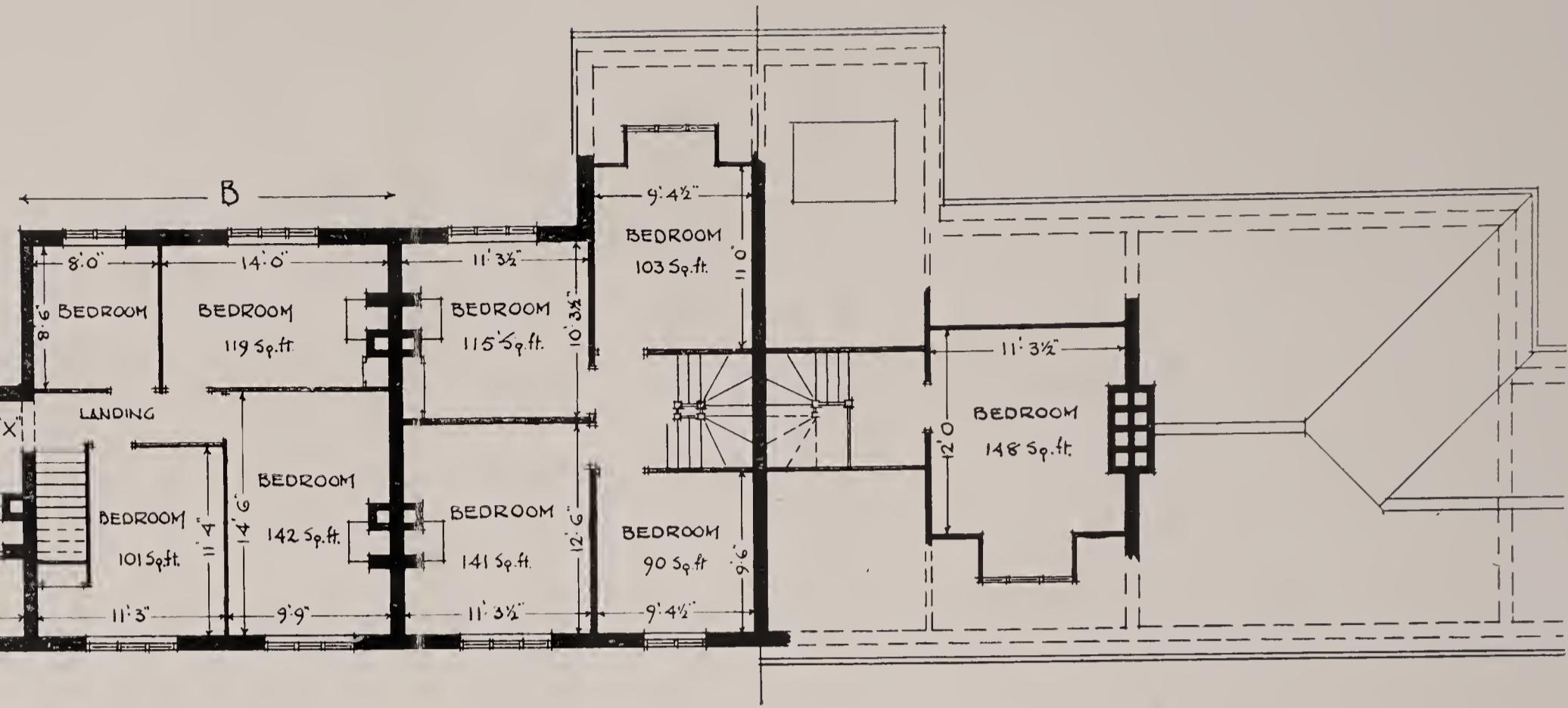
BOROUGH OF STAFFORD

TILLINGTON HOUSING SCHEME

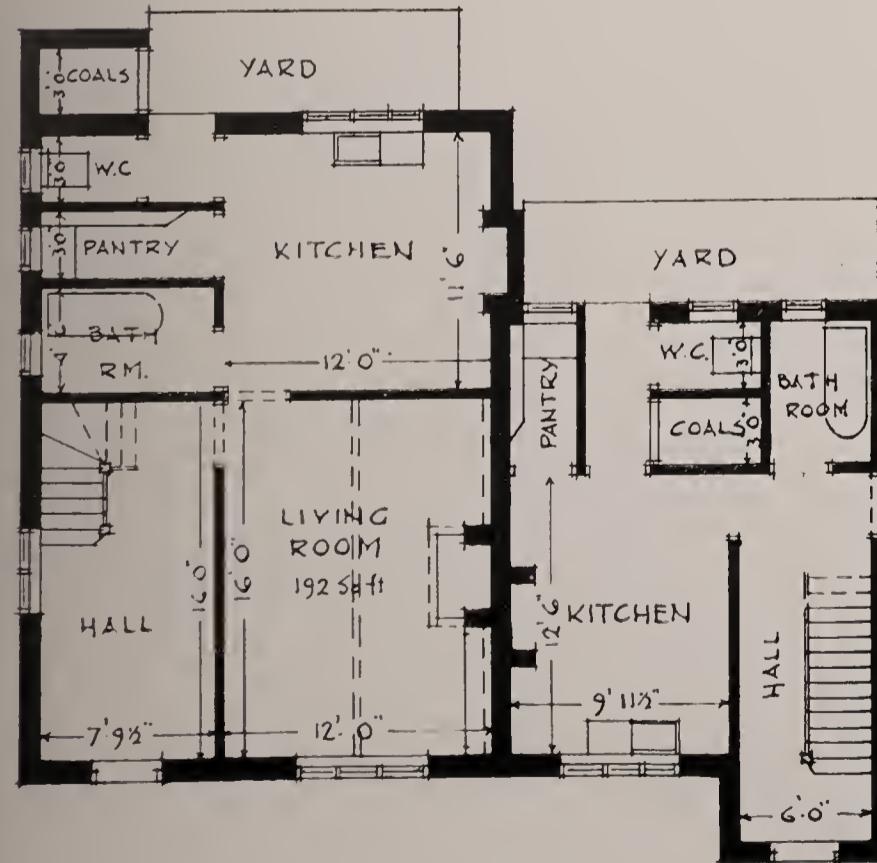


FIRST FLOOR PLAN

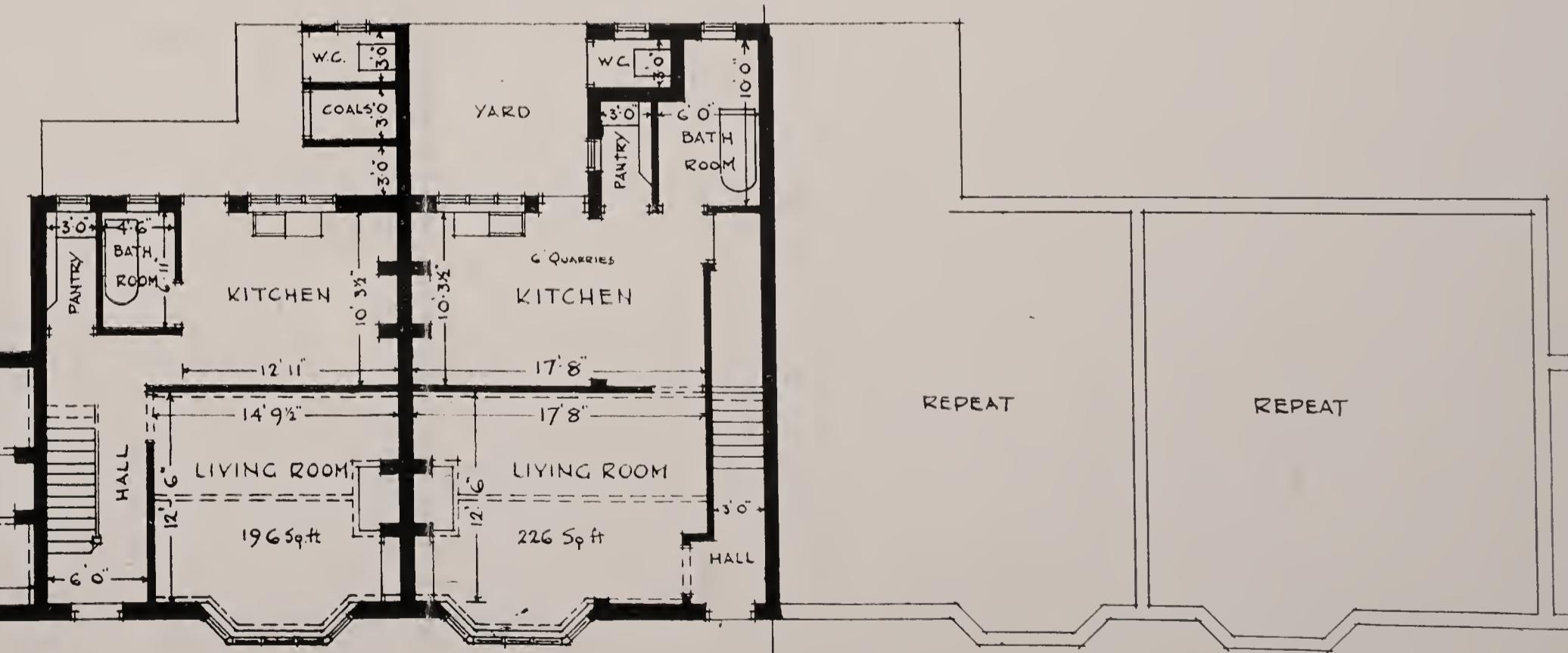
Note: The 4 Bedroom Houses "A" and "B" may be converted into 5 Bedroom Houses by removing partitions at "X" and providing partitions at "Y"



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 27 cowkeepers and 89 milksellers registered within the Borough. In addition, the names of 22 persons who reside outside and retail milk inside the Borough are on the Register.

75 visits were paid to the cowsheds and 137 to the milk shops; in each case the occupier's attention was called to the requirements as to cleansing and lime-washing. 35 of the milk sellers are registered only for the sale of sterilised milk in sealed bottles. Of the 27 cowkeepers, 16 are licensed Accredited Producers.

The improvement shown with regard to the cleanliness of the cows and the sheds during the previous twelve months has been maintained, although conditions are not by any means perfect. A satisfactory feature is the increase in the number of milk producers who have installed high pressure boilers for sterilizing, of whom there are now twelve. The need for the greatest attention to details in the production and handling of milk to ensure its cleanliness is continually being reiterated on the occasion of the inspectors' visits.

Designated Milks.

Licenses under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, were issued to three retailers for Tuberculin Tested Milk, two for Pasteurised Milk and seven for Accredited Milk.

The examination of samples for bacterial content and for tubercle bacilli is carried out by the County Council. The following results were obtained from milk on sale in the Borough :—

	No. of Samples.	Cleanliness		
		Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Tuberculosis.
Specially designated milks.....	15	14	1*	—
Ordinary milk	41	28	13	4

* Tuberculin Tested.

One sample of sterilized milk was also taken and was satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

The total amount of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption was 32 tons.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	5,312		3,601	14,943	14,552
.....
Number inspected ...	4,795		3,436	12,743	14,221
.....
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	22	31	39	15
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	13	28	8	34	84
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tu- berculosis	1.3		1.1	0.6	0.7
.....
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcasses condemned	5	33	1	—	14
Carcases of which some part or or- gan was con- demned	29	113	2	—	792
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tu- berculosis	3.7		0.1	—	5.6

The greater percentage of diseased meat is dealt with at one large slaughterhouse where facilities are available for the reception of diseased or injured animals sent in from the surrounding districts. Approximately 62.45 per cent. of the animals slaughtered in the Borough are dressed at this one slaughterhouse.

With the numerous other duties of the Sanitary Inspectors, the post-mortem examinations of animals dressed for human food takes up a considerable amount of time, both during the day and evening.

The butchers have, as in previous years, supplied the public of Stafford with meat from the highest grade of cattle.

It is pleasing to note the high standard of cleanliness maintained at all the butchers' shops.

During the year, the owners of three premises had modern closed windows fitted, so as to avoid the contamination of meat by dust that may be blown from the streets.

Regular inspections have been made of the foodstuffs exposed for sale in the Market Hall, and they were found to be in a sound condition.

43 lbs. of herrings were condemned as unfit for human consumption after inspection at the request of the owners.

Unwholesome food :—

Number of surrenders	...	...	...	743
Number of seizures	...	...	...	0
Condemned by Magistrate	...	...	...	0
Prosecution for exposing for sale	...	...	...	0
Convictions for exposing for sale	...	...	...	0

Classification of Slaughterhouses.

	In 1920.	In Jan., 1937.	In Dec., 1937.
Registered ...	11	2	2
Licensed ...	11	8	8
—	—	—	—
	22	10	10
—	—	—	—

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

During the year 62 licences were issued to fit and proper persons to slaughter animals for human food.

Food & Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

This Act is administered by the County Council, but, by the courtesy of the County Medical Officer, I am able to include the results of the examination of samples taken in the Borough during 1937.

Article.	Number Submitted	Genuine	Adulterated
Milk, Accredited	5	5	—
,, Machine Skinned.....	1	1	—
,, Pasteurised.....	3	3	—
,, Tuberculin Tested	1	1	—
,, Ordinary.....	18	18	—
Marmalade	2	2	—
Cream	3	3	—
Semolina	3	3	—
Ground Rice.....	3	3	—
Apple Jelly	1	1	—
Tea	5	5	—
Olive Oil	4	4	—
Silver Pins in Olive Oil	1	1	—
Honey	1	1	—
Strawberry Preserve	1	—	1*
Lemon Curd	1	1	—
Liquid Paraffin	4	4	—
Glycerine	2	2	—
Olive Oil	3	3	—
Cod Liver Oil	3	3	—
Malt Vinegar	3	3	—
Raspberry Jam	3	—	3*
Coffee	1	1	—
Cocoa	3	3	—
Golden Syrup	1	1	—
Castor Oil	1	1	—
French Mustard	1	1	—
Curry Powder	1	1	—
Tarragon Vinegar	1	1	—
Nu Milk	1	1	—
Butter	3	3	—
Lard	2	2	—
Beefsteak Sauce	1	1	—
Pickles in Malt Vinegar	1	1	—
Foy's "Four in One"	1	1	—
Fine Oatmeal	1	1	—
Rice	1	1	—
Mincemeat	1	1	—
Sild	1	1	—
Total	93	89	4

* This was Confectionery Jam, which had received special treatment.

Ice Cream.

21 visits were made to premises where ice cream is sold. The number of premises where ice cream is made was 14, the remainder have their supply direct from the manufacturers. In six cases only were modern refrigerators not installed.

Nothing further has been done with regard to the compulsory registration of makers of ice cream.

Shell-fish.

The shell-fish on sale in the Borough are obtained from wholesalers at Birmingham, Billingsgate, Southport and Flamborough.

Infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) notified during the 52 weeks from 3rd January 1937, to 1st January, 1938

Notifiable Disease.	At all Ages	Case Distribution as to Wards.				Marston Road Hosp.	Gen. Infirmary	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 & over	Removed to Hospital	
		North	South	East	West																
Scarlet Fever	Cases ...	75	22	11	19	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	9	31	10	9	1	1	—	65
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	Cases ...	14	4	1	2	6	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	2	2	1	—	14
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	Cases ...	3	1.	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
	Deaths	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	Cases ...	8	1	—	3	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	—	—
	Deaths	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia Cases ...	Deaths	69	20	14	19	11	5	8	3	4	1	4	2	—	11	2	2	10	9	19	5
Erysipelas.....	Cases ...	16	6	3	5	2	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	8	2	2
Cerebro-spinal Fever Cases ...	Deaths	18	3	3	4	4	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases ...	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

As sources of information, especially concerning infectious diseases which are not notifiable, the reports compiled by Head Teachers of Schools, and sent to the County School Medical Officer and to your Medical Officer of Health, are extremely valuable.

Although these reports may be a burden to the Head Teachers, they could from a health point of view well be extended to cover other diseases, e.g. diarrhoea, epidemic sore throats, jaundice, etc.

A table has been compiled and set out below.

School.	Whooping Cough	Measles	Mumps	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Chicken Pox	Influenza
King Edward VI. School	2	13	2	1	—	—	—
Girls' High School	—	11	—	—	—	2	—
Corporation Street Boys	—	9	2	—	—	1	164
,, ,, Girls	8	41	11	28	—	1	402
,, ,, Infants	44	18	4	—	—	—	135
St. Mary's School	—	9	—	—	—	—	82
St. Leonard's School	1	54	32	6	—	9	179
Tenterbanks Girls	—	—	12	—	—	—	93
,, ,, Infants	15	20	—	—	—	—	82
Stone Road Infants	103	22	—	—	—	—	71
Rickerscote School	—	—	—	4	—	—	20
Rowley Street School	1	7	—	—	—	—	39
St. Patrick's Senior	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Patrick's Junior	8	—	—	—	—	—	63
Littleworth St. John's	3	5	6	2	—	3	38
Forebridge C.E.	—	3	—	—	—	2	35
,, ,, Infants	—	—	—	—	—	—	23
	1	238	202	35	31	18	1426

Influenza was prevalent this year, and its complication, Pneumonia, although not of undue frequency, was nevertheless very fatal when it occurred.

Scarlet Fever was general, affecting all ages, but not very severe in character.

There were not many cases of Whooping Cough, but Measles and Mumps provided many cases, and which were generally mild in character.

VACCINATION STATISTICS.—The following figures for 1936 apply to the whole of the Stafford Union Area :—

Births registered	...	...	...	...	...	534
Successfully vaccinated	...	...	...	...	139	
Insusceptible	...	...	...	...	2	
Exemptions	...	...	...	...	356	
Died unvaccinated	...	...	...	...	32	
Removed	...	...	...	...	5	

Scarlet Fever.

There were seventy-five cases of Scarlet Fever notified as against sixty-nine last year. A table showing Ward and seasonal distribution follows :—

Ward	Total	Jan-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec
North	22	1	7	5	9
South	11	3	3	1	4
East.....	19	2	9	1	7
West	19	2	6	3	8
Baswich	4	—	2	2	—
	75	8	27	12	28

Sex distribution: Males, 25; Females, 50.

Age distribution: See table, page 33.

It is necessary that popular opinion of this disease should undergo a change. Scarlet Fever is not an entity in the same way as Measles. It is only one form in which the invasion of the body by the streptococcus haemolyticus manifests itself.

It cannot be sufficiently realised that the removal of a patient with a Scarlet rash to a Hospital does not mean the removal of all infection from the home. The mother with a sore throat, the father with a septic hand, the baby with a sore in its nose or a discharge from its ear, are all probably suffering from the same infection, but depending on the strain of organism, its mode of entry, and the personal resistance of the individual, so the clinical signs vary. In fact, Hospital provision should be only for those who require nursing, i.e., ill cases and for those handling foods, etc.

In the course of time it is probable that with the aid of the Bacteriologist the type of streptococcus causing the disease will be promptly recognised; all remaining members of the family will then be swabbed, and, if found carrying the organism, will be restrained from mixing with other people, and the remainder will be able to resume their employment.

In three instances only were there more than one case in one family. There were three "return" cases.

The infected houses had 0.96 rooms per person, as compared with 1.24 the census figure for the town as a whole.

Case rate per 1,000 living, for Stafford, 2.36; for England and Wales 2.33.

Diphtheria.

Fourteen cases of the disease were notified during the year. All cases were admitted to Hospital. There were no deaths.

The infected houses had 0.97 rooms per person.

Case rate per 1,000 living, for Stafford 0.44; for England and Wales 1.49.

In the years 1925 to 1931 inclusive, immunisation against Diphtheria, although sanctioned by the Public Health Committee, was negligible. During the following years the numbers were:—1932, 37; 1933, 82; 1934, 170; 1935, 321; 1936, 338; and last year 251 children received injections.

The procedure as at present carried out is the injection, either in the Schools or at 5, Martin Street, of three doses of Evans' T.A.F. prophylactic at intervals of one or two weeks. When visiting the Schools, arrangements are also made for the testing of the children who were immunised in School in the previous year, and also of those children who were injected as toddlers or babies.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION IN 1937.

School.	No. of forms sent out.	Acceptances.	%	Immunised.	Remarks.	Readings		Remarks.
						+	-	
Corporation St. Infants	91	38	44	36	1 left. 1 absent. 2 prolonged absence. 1 previously immunised. 1 left.	60	3	55 2 absent.
Forebridge	28	12	43	10		14	2	12
Littleworth1.....	30	16	53	14		10	—	10
Rickerscote	15	9	60	9		16	—	16
St. Austin's.....	10	8	80	7	1 absent. 2 absent.	5	—	4
St. Leonard's	48	22	45	20		14	2	11
St. Patrick's	15	5	33	5		18	2	16
Stone Road.....	98	45	51	43	2 absent.	52	1	51
Tenterbanks	25	7	28	7		19	—	18
WELFARE.								
Welfare babies					2 not completed course.	97		
(at 5, Martin Street)						3		
General Practitioners						251		
Total	360	264				208	10	193

For the year under review, an expected fall in the number of entrants to the Schools materialised, but this was not sufficient to account for the marked reduction in the number of forms sent out and acceptances received. In 1936 there were 221 school children immunised as against 151 this year, a decrease of approximately 30%. Welfare acceptances declined from 106 to 99, and those privately inoculated by general practitioners fell from 11 to 3.

The average number of births for the last ten years in this Borough was 410. To protect the population mainly at risk, i.e., those under 15 years of age ($410 \times 14 = 5,740$), 60%, or 3,450 children, must be immunised. During the last six years, 1,159 have been protected. In the course of the next eight years, it will be necessary to average 290 children per annum in order to reach this percentage.

It would be safer if this 60% saturation point of the child population could be raised, and accomplished in a shorter period. As yet, mothers do not look upon protection against Diphtheria as a thing to be sought after, rather do they wait for its importance to be thrust upon them by the Health Visitors. Thanks are mainly due to the Heads of the Infant School Departments and to our Health Visitors and School Nurses for the success which has been achieved so far.

Enteric Fever.

No cases were notified of this group of diseases, but one death was assigned to Paratyphoid by the Registrar-General. Enquiry at the time did not disclose any information as to the source of infection.

Death rate per 1,000 living, for Stafford 0.03 ; for England and Wales 0.00.

Dysentery.

Three cases were reported during the year. In two cases the causal organisms were *B. Flexner* and *B. Sonne*. In the third case the organism was not isolated.

The Minister of Health in his report for 1936 states—
“ In previous Annual Reports reference has been made to the growing certainty that dysentery due to the bacilli of Sonne or Flexner or Shiga is endemic in this country, and that much of it escapes notice, not only in the private practice of medical practitioners but even in the wards of hospitals.”

Although the outbreaks referred to by the Minister are mild in character, they are a source of anxiety to Public Health Departments. Recently, the existence of a similar outbreak was prevalent in Stafford and the districts around. That, in Stafford, was in operation for some weeks before a chance conversation with a General Practitioner enabled inquiries to be made, and with his aid specimens were forwarded to the County Laboratory for investigation. Unfortunately, in one sense, the outbreak was dying down, and thus the causal factor was not determined, although in one instance *B. Sonne* was found.

The importance of early information is most desirable, as the possibility of tracing the source of infection diminishes as time passes. Further, experience in ascertaining the mode of spread from family to family, of these diseases is required. The spread from member to member in the family is due to defective hygiene, this proved successful in one Doctor's practice, where the mothers were informed of the necessity of all members washing after toilet and before meals.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Eight cases of the latter were notified. One case was notified from 52, Marston Road, and one case from the Infirmary. One other case was admitted to Hospital.

With regard to facilities for treatment, Mr. C. E. M. Blumer is the consultant under the Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, bacteriological examinations are provided by the County Council, hospital treatment is available at the General Infirmary, and trained nursing is provided by the District Nursing Association. During the year Mr. G. I. Wilson was appointed to act as deputy.

The rates for these conditions are best expressed in relation to the number of births registered rather than to population. When calculated on this basis the rates are—Stafford, 16.49; and England and Wales, 13.93 per 1,000 total births (i.e. live and still births) registered during the year. There is one point which, however, affects our rate adversely, i.e., the rate quoted above is calculated upon the registered births, which are approximately twenty per cent. less than the total births from which the Puerperal Pyrexia notifications arise.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases are not notifiable, and, thus, the information obtained from the Education Authority every week as to the presence of these diseases in the Schools is particularly valuable, as it enables the Health Visitors to visit those families where there are babies notified from this source. The Health Visitors made 325 visits.

Pneumonia.

Notified cases, 69. Total deaths, 26 ; deaths of notified cases, 16 ; others, 10.

Case rate per 1,000 population, locally 2.17, and for the country, 1.36, and for the Smaller Towns, 1.20.

A short table has been drawn up to disclose the quarterly incidence of the disease, and the Ward distribution.

NOTIFICATION OF PNEUMONIA. DEATHS FROM INFLUENZA
AND PNEUMONIA.

	Quarter ending														
	March 31				June 30				Sept. 30				Dec. 31		
	N	S	E	W	B	N	S	E	W	B	N	S	E	W	B
Ward distribution	11	5	10	6	1	—	6	5	1	2	3	1	2	1	1
Pneumonia notifications															
Total															
Number of above who died															
Deaths including above and all forms of Pneumonia.....	4	1	4	1	—	1	1	—	3	1	1	2	2	—	2
Total															
Influenza deaths															

Ages—Under 1 1—2 5—15 15—25 25—45 45—65 Over 65 years

No. of Deaths 3 2 1 2 5 10 7

Sixty-nine cases of Pneumonia were notified ; of these, 16 died. The main points are—in January and February, and to a less extent also in March, Influenza was prevalent, and, although not reaching the severity of the epidemic of 1918, it was more fatal in this Borough than the outbreak of 1929. During the first quarter of the year 17 people died of Influenza, and the case mortality of those notified as suffering from Pneumonia during the same period was as high as one in three. Further, throughout the year, and consistently for each quarter, the notification of Pneumonia has remained high. This may be due to general practitioners becoming increasingly aware that the notification of cases of Pneumonia need not depend upon the fact that it must be solely due to Influenza. As long as the Pneumonia is primary in character and not following upon any other disease, excepting Influenza, it is notifiable.

Erysipelas.

There were 18 cases notified. There were 2 deaths. Case rate per 1,000, for Stafford 0.56 ; for England and Wales 0.37.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.

Dr. C. E. M. Blinier was appointed by the County Council in 1936 under the Regulations of 1919, to act as consultant for the Mid-Stafford Area, which includes Stafford Borough.

Bacteriological Work.

The County Laboratory, provided by the Staffordshire County Council, undertakes all bacteriological and chemical investigations required by this Authority. Dr. Menton and Mr. Jones have continued to assist me with their advice during the year, and my thanks are due to them.

During the year bacteriological reports were received by the Medical Officer of Health on the following —

Swabs examined for Diphtheria bacilli	...	791
Other swabs	...	326
Virulence test (Diphtheria)	...	14
Blood for Agglutination Tests	...	29
Fæces	...	53
Urine	...	16
Wassermann Test	...	—
Pus	...	56
Cerebro-spinal fluid	...	51
Sputum for Tubercl bacilli	...	173
Biological test (Tuberculosis)	...	63
Other examinations	...	78

Issues of Diphtheria Antitoxin, etc.

Diphtheria antitoxin, available for the treatment of cases of Diphtheria, can be obtained free on request by a medical practitioner. Diphtheria prophylactic is also provided free, and is used for the prevention of the disease.

Isolation Hospital.

147 cases were admitted to Hospital, classified as follows:—

Disease.	Stafford Borough.	Stafford Rural District.	Other Authorities	Total.
Scarlet Fever	66	34	5	105
Diphtheria	14	7	8	29
Streptococcal infection	2	—	—	2
Tonsilitis	3	—	—	3
Diphtheria carrier ...	1	—	—	1
Chicken Pox.....	1	—	—	1
Dysentery.....	1	—	2	3
Typhoid Fever.....	—	—	1	1
Cases re-admitted for further treatment	2	—	—	2
Total	90	41	16	147

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case was notified in 1937. Vision was not affected.

Tuberculosis.

Analysis of the new cases and deaths during the calendar year, 1937 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5—15	—	1	1	5	—	—	—	—
15—25	3	5	—	—	2	2	—	—
25—35	4	1	—	—	3	2	—	—
35—45	4	2	—	—	4	1	—	—
45—55	4	1	1	1	5	—	—	—
55—65	3	4	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals ...	18	14	2	6	18	6	—	1

The death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis was 0.79 as compared with 0.70 last year. Four cases of Tuberculosis also died from some other cause.

Year.	Number of deaths.		Rate per 1,000.			New Cases.
	Res.	Non-Res.	Res.	Non-Res.	Total.	
1927	20	4	0.69	0.14	0.83	53
1928	24	6	0.83	0.20	1.03	73
1929	21	5	0.73	0.17	0.90	61
1930	19	8	0.65	0.27	0.92	64
1931	18	3	0.61	0.10	0.71	49
1932	26	9	0.87	0.30	1.17	44
1933	19	2	0.64	0.07	0.71	47
1934	23	3	0.76	0.10	0.86	58
1935	16	5	0.53	0.16	0.69	47
1936	18	4	0.58	0.12	0.70	47
1937	24	1	0.76	0.03	0.79	40

Notifications and Deaths of Respiratory and Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis assigned to Wards :—

Ward	Notifications		Deaths	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
North	8	1	4	—
South	6	—	5	—
East.....	10	3	8	—
West	6	4	6	—
Baswich	2	—	1	1

The " Balance Sheet " for the Register may be given as follows :—

Number on Register at 31st Dec., 1936 ...	297	Deaths (including 4 from other causes)	
Notifications in 1937 ...	40	in 1937	29
Unnotified deaths ...	3	Removals	7
Transfers	2	" Recovered " ...	11
Returned to district ...	0	Number on Register at 31st Dec., 1937	295
	—		—
	342		342
	—		—

Distribution of known cases as to Wards :—

North	South	East	West	Baswich	Total
85	48	88	65	9	295

NOTIFICATION.—There were three deaths of persons who had not been notified as suffering from Tuberculosis.

The average interval elapsing between notification and death was $21\frac{1}{2}$ months.

Twenty-seven cases from the Borough of Stafford were admitted as in-patients to the following institutions during 1937 :

Prestwood Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	18
Groundslow Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	5
Yarnfield Tuberculosis Hospital	...	...	...	...	1
Himley Children's Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	1
Standon Hall	...	...	...	...	1
Kinver Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	1

AFTER-CARE.—The Stafford Guild of Social Welfare undertakes this work in the area. An annual grant up to £2 per case is made by the Joint Committee towards the expenses of the After-Care Committee, but it cannot be too widely known that the primary aim of the work is not to relieve distress amongst the tuberculous but rather to help them to become self supporting. All cases are submitted to the Committee by the Tuberculosis Officer and the following is a brief summary of the main objects of the work :—

1. To allay any fears that may exist as to the danger of infection in early cases, subject to the patient taking reasonable precautions.
2. Finding suitable employment and providing clothing and food in necessitous cases.
3. The provision of beds and bedding to enable patients to sleep alone.
4. When necessary to assist the families of patients who are under treatment in residential institutions.
5. To take a general interest in the welfare of cases submitted to their care, and if necessary to visit them at their homes. These visits are not intended to take the place of the visits paid by the Health Visitors appointed by the Council.

HEALTH VISITING.—The Health Visitors have paid 41 primary visits to tuberculous persons on notification and 629 subsequent visits.

Eleven families in which there was a notified Tuberculosis case were transferred to Corporation houses during the year.

**Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925,
and Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.**

No action was necessary under either of these provisions, the former of which relates to tuberculous employees in the milk trade and the latter to compulsory removal of infectious cases to hospital.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births Acts.

504 births were notified (450 by midwives, 31 by doctors, 3 by parents and 20 by Institutions), and 21 other births were registered, making 525 births taking place in the Borough during the year. Of this total 96% were notified in accordance with the above Acts.

Ward distribution of births and still-births :—
North, 133 ; South, 138 ; East, 125 ; West, 128 ; Baswich, 28.

Health Visiting.

The following is a summary of visits in regard to Infant Welfare :—

BIRTHS.		1937	1936
Primary visits	...	472	372
Re-visits	...	1483	1293
ANTE-NATAL VISITS.			
Primary	...	133	150
Re-visits	...	131	93
Visits to older children (1—5)	...	4296	4504
Inquiries into infant deaths	...	10	21
Inquiries into still births	...	13	22
Unclassified visits	...	86	89

It will be seen that the majority of the births are visited, and that the older children (1—5) receive their share of attention too. The number of visits this year was affected by the absence through ill-health of one of the Health Visitors.

Children Act, 1908, and Children and Young Persons Act, 1932.

On Register, 1st January 1937	...	17	Removals	...	...	5
New Cases	...	4	Adopted	...	...	3
			Over nine years	...	...	0
			On Register, 31st Dec-ember, 1937	...	...	13
		—			—	
		21			21	
		—			—	

The number of visits during the year was 78.

Infant Welfare Centre.

The Centre is held at the Wesley Schools, Queen Street, and is open from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. Attendances at the Centre during the past three years are given briefly.

- (1) Total number of attendances at the Centre—

		1935	1936	1937
	(i) by children under one year of age	3176	3051	4386
	(ii) by children between the ages of one and five years	4129	4177	4922
(2)	Total number of children who attended at the Centre during the year, and who, on the date of their first attendance, were	1935	1936	1937
	(i) under one year of age ...	204	204	275
	(ii) between the ages of one and five years	10	38	54
(3)	Total number of children under five years of age who attended at the Centre during the year, and who, at the end of the year, were	1935	1936	1937
	(i) under one year of age ...	176	159	233
	(ii) over one year of age ...	340	508	460
(4)	Percentage of notified live births represented by the numbers in (2) (i)	1935	1936	1937
		47.5	50	54.34

The work of the past year has been, as the figures indicate, satisfactory, but with the anticipated increased dispersal of the population it is impossible to foretell in which direction these figures will go. It is well known that a new Centre is required, and the Welfare Committee have a very difficult problem to face in that the scattering of the population might well be sufficient for them to recommend, either the setting up of one central Centre and adjust the balance by the use of subsidiary centres when necessary, or that they should erect two smaller Centres at either end of the Borough.

For normal children the attendances recommended to mothers are:—Weekly during the first year; monthly during the second year; and at least once a quarter afterwards until the child attends school.

The Centre is opened daily from 9 to 10 a.m. for Minor Ailments.

At first it was thought that there was no need for such a service, but gradually, and as experience is gained, an increasing use is being found for it.

I suggest that it can fulfil the following useful service :—

Cases such as discharging eyes, scalds, septic sores, rashes, etc., which in themselves are not of such severity as to need personal dressing by the private practitioner do require thorough application of the remedies he prescribes. In fact, treatment meant to be carried out in the home, which in many instances and for various reasons are ineffectually carried out, can be dealt with at the Centre. This method would relieve the Out-patient Department of some of its less serious work, and also in certain instances save the District Nurses' time for their more important cases.

Attendances. New cases, 78 ; revisits, 447.

The numbers are not high, and, provided the service can be maintained unbroken, they should increase.

Ante-Natal Care. The care of the expectant mother devolves upon two Authorities. The County Council, being the Local Supervising Authority, are responsible for the midwives and their work, the payment of medical fees, if any are incurred, and the control of Maternity Homes.

The Borough Council are responsible for the ante-natal and post-natal examinations, dental provision, consultant services, and Hospital provision for difficult and abnormal cases.

The success of the ante-natal domiciliary scheme depends on the adequacy of ante-natal supervision, and this, in turn, relies on the early engagement of the midwife by the mother, and her prompt attendance at the Doctor's for an ante-natal examination. The co-operation of the midwives is entirely dependent on their goodwill, for they are not under the control of this Authority.

An attempt has been made to describe as briefly as possible how mothers are cared for during their confinements in the Borough.

Notified Births	Notified by	Stillbirths
525	Maternity Homes 43	
	Institutions 44	
	Doctors' cases 12	249 12
	District Nursing Association	
	As Maternity Nurses 150	
	As Midwives 272	
	Independent midwife 14	286 11

It will be seen that 286, or 54 per cent. of the total confinements in 1937 were in sole charge of a midwife, and that "on the district" 162 out of 438 confinements, i.e., in 27 per cent. a medical practitioner was in attendance.

The table shows that 286 births were attended by midwives. Later in the report it is stated that 282 primary ante-natal examinations were carried out. If it were not for the practice of some expectant mothers to change over from the Midwife's care to that of her Doctor after the ante-natal examination, it would be possible to say that practically all midwives' cases are seen automatically under your domiciliary scheme, but this is not so in fact as a number of cases counted under your domiciliary scheme as midwives' cases do not remain as such, and thus, varying directly with this at present unknown number, a number of women are not seen.

Another point in assessing the efficiency of the service must not be overlooked. The numbers are not strictly comparable, for a woman does not always give birth to her child in the same year as the ante-natal examination is carried out.

Sufficient has been said to disclose that, as far as numbers are concerned, the ante-natal service covers a larger number of expectant mothers than is conveyed by the statement that the percentage of total notified births represented by the total number of expectant mothers ante-natally examined—54.

The table indicates that the more difficult cases are dealt with in Maternity Homes and Institutions, as in these places 12 stillbirths were recorded out of 87 confinements, as against 11 only in 438 confinements on the district.

In order to encourage the midwife it has been assumed that she is responsible for her patient, and your Medical Officer has communicated to her all information disclosed at the ante-natal and post-natal examinations, and, further, should it be necessary for the case to be moved to Hospital, the Borough Council partly compensates her for the loss of the case.

To obtain more information as to the progress of the case between the first ante-natal examination and the birth of the child, the Council authorised the circulation of a questionnaire which provides a complete but very brief history of events during the patient's pregnancy and confinement. For this the midwife receives payment. The questionnaire however is not always completed.

Number of confinements (from May 1st)	...	...	272
Number of questionnaires received	...	...	156
Medical aid sought during pregnancy	...	...	24
Medical aid not sought during pregnancy	...	...	132
Morbid conditions arising during delivery	...	...	39
Morbid conditions arising after delivery	...	...	8
Baby. Normal	...	...	138
Abnormal	...	...	12

An analysis of these questionnaires discloses that medical aid was sought on behalf of the mother during pregnancy in 15%, during confinement in 25%, and after confinement in 5% of the cases, and that in 8% of the babies born there was some abnormality or condition present at birth or which subsequently developed.

EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS.—Arrangements have been made with the Infirmary for the provision of a nurse and apparatus for use in an emergency, that is in those cases where the mother is too ill to be moved at once to Hospital. Mr. Blumer, or his deputy, Mr. Wilson, collect the nurse and apparatus from the Hospital on their way to the case. Meanwhile, the ambulance is warned to follow on in case it is found advisable to move the patient.

The services of the Consultant were required on seven occasions for the following conditions:—Toxænia of Pregnancy, 2 cases; Malpresentation, 2 cases; Delayed labour, 1 case; and two cases requiring repair after labour.

In 1937 medical practitioners carried out under your Maternity Domiciliary Scheme:—

Primary ante-natal examinations	...	282	—53.7%	of total notified births.
Secondary ante-natal examinations	...	134		

An analysis of the ante-natal and post-natal examinations follows:—

Number of examinations of insured patients	130	} 487
Number of examinations of non-insured patients	...	
Number of cases found to be abnormal at the ante-natal examination	...	357 } 136

ABNORMALITIES FOUND AT THE ANTE-NATAL EXAMINATIONS:

Malpresentation	...	...	...	...	21
Contracted Pelvis	...	...	...	...	8
Failure of head to engage	...	...	...	...	10
Antepartum haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	5
Vaginal discharge	...	...	...	...	33
Venereal disease	...	...	...	...	1
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	30
Varicose veins	...	...	...	...	55
Oedema	...	...	...	...	26
Heart and lungs	...	...	...	...	14
Anæmia	...	...	...	...	12
Increased blood pressure	...	...	...	...	2
Other conditions	...	...	...	...	19

RECOMMENDATIONS:—

Can be safely attended at home by midwife	179
Doctor to be present at confinement	...
Further ante-natal examination	...
Specialist's opinion	...
Admitted to Hospital	...
Confinement take place in Hospital	...
Dental treatment	...

Post-natal Examinations. 71—13.5% of total notified births.
Number of cases found to be abnormal ... 38

Uterus :	Treatment		
	Abnormalities	advised.	
Position	...	10	10
Involution	...	7	3
Discharge	...	19	8
Perinæum	...	8	3
Internal laceration	...	6	2
Other conditions	...	16	9

It has been the policy of the Welfare Committee to encourage mothers to attend for their first general medical examination at or about the third month of their pregnancy. The table below shows that this ideal has not as yet been reached.

	When conducted				
	Months				
	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th +
Number of Ante-natal examinations ...	5	24	48	76	129

Sterilized maternity outfits are on sale at cost price (3s. and 6s.), and may be paid for by instalments. The Maternity Committee of the Guild of Social Welfare have kindly assisted in providing these for necessitous cases.

Thanks are due to the members of the Maternity Committee of the Guild of Social Welfare for regular assistance on Centre Days, an indispensable help in the running of the Centre, also for the loan of Maternity Bags to necessitous cases, to the Mayor's Fund for clothing for the mothers and children, and to the Guild's Boot Fund for boots for children under school age, and to the Nursing Association for the welcome help afforded by the attendance of one of their Nurses at the Weighing Rooms in the afternoons and at other times when requested.

HOME HELPS. A small panel of women has been approved by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee to act as home helps. They may be engaged through the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre or 5, Martin Street. A graduated scale of charges has been drawn up, based on the family income, and these fees must be paid at least one month before the home help is required. 19 cases were so assisted during 1937.

COMPENSATION TO MIDWIVES FOR LOSS OF CASES. When a patient sent by a midwife for Ante-natal care is admitted to a hospital or home for her confinement on the advice of the doctor, a sum of 10s. will be paid to the midwife by the Committee as compensation for the loss of the case.

DENTAL TREATMENT. The County Health Visiting Committee have agreed to provide dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and children under school age who attend the Welfare Centre.

Mr. W. H. Jones, M.A., Cantab, L.D.S., R.C.S. Eng., the County Dental Officer, has kindly supplied me with the following report:—

" During the year 1937 the arrangements for the dental treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers and of "toddlers" remained unchanged, the patients attending the Dental Clinic, now situated in Lammascote Road, and being treated by the dental surgeons attached to the staff of the County Council.

" During the year there were treated 30 mothers and 91 " toddlers," a total of 121 patients.

" The mothers treated made 206 attendances and their treatment comprised the extraction of 324 permanent teeth under local anaesthetic ; the completion of 2 fillings ; 6 scalings ; 67 sundry operations and the insertion of 14 artificial dentures, a total of 413 operations.

" The 'toddlers,' each of whom was accompanied by a parent, made 91 attendances and their treatment comprised the extraction of 100 temporary teeth with local applications of anodyne solution, 216 dressings and 5 sundries, a total of 321 operations.

" The arrangement made whereby the Medical Officer of the Welfare Centre was responsible for the selection of suitable cases for treatment among the mothers attending the centre was continued and was found satisfactory. The Health Visitors co-operated in visiting cases and recommending "toddlers." In short, the joint Scheme worked harmoniously during the year.

" It is satisfactory to record that there were no cases of refusal of treatment during the year."

Baby Day.

Miss Suffield contributes the following account :—

The Baby Day Celebrations were held during the last week in June, arrangements similar to previous years being carried out.

Letters were sent to the clergy and ministers of religion inviting their co-operation by preaching special sermons on Sunday, June 20th.

The chemists and drapers gave a splendid display of mothers' and children's requirements, adding greatly to the educational value of Baby Day.

The Welfare Centre, being open to the public on Monday, June 21st, induced many mothers to bring friends. The pram parade prizes were on view. They were greatly admired, and were responsible for many belated entrants.

We were again indebted to Mrs. Drury for her assistance in decorating a perambulator, and to Messrs. Brookfields for the loan of a canopy. The perambulator was on view at the Welfare Centre for a few weeks, and proved very helpful to beginners in this form of decoration.

A garden party, organised by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, took place on Wednesday, June 23rd, in the Victoria Pleasure Grounds.

It was preceded by a Decorated Pram Parade, which, favoured by brilliant sunshine, was watched by crowds of interested spectators.

The decorated perambulators were previously judged in the Market Hall. The standard of work was excellent, the judges having difficulty in making the awards.

The Parade was marshalled by Councillors Atkinson and Reynolds, and headed by the Stafford Town Band. The Mayor (in his chain and robes of office) was followed by members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, the judges, competitors, and members of the Infant Welfare Centre, the route being by way of Greengate Street and Newport Road.

Arriving at the Victoria Pleasure Grounds, the guests were welcomed by Alderman Adamson (Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee), and tea was quickly served by Alderman Mrs. Turney, Councillor Mrs. Cotterill, and a band of willing helpers.

The Mayor presented silver mugs and Post Office Savings Books credited with £1 to six children born in the Borough on Coronation Day, May 12th, 1937. The recipients were four boys and two girls.

Mrs. Douglas, representing the Mayoress, presented the Pram Parade and Attendance Prizes. The Deputy Mayoress (Councillor Mrs. Robinson) presented the Mothercraft Certificates, and Mrs. H. B. Binks presented the Blumer Shield and medals to the runners-up. The judging for this competition took place early in June, Dr. Watson kindly acting as adjudicator.

The prizes for the best attendance at the Welfare Centre from birth to school age were given by Mrs. Aspin, Councillor

Miss Westhead, Mrs. South, J.P., The Trades and Labour Council, Alderman Adamson, Mrs. F. G. Lloyd, Mrs. A. Hourd, Councillor Mrs. Robinson, and Mrs. Taylor.

The band played selections of music until 6 p.m.

Free Supply of Milk to Mothers and Infants.

During the past year the number of applications for free milk was 134. Of these, 127 were granted and 7 refused. The number on the register at the commencement of the year was 51, and at the end of the year 91.

Breast feeding is encouraged, and the Health Visitors report that

85% were breast fed at the first visit

59% were breast fed at the end of three months and

43% were breast fed for over six months, while

14% were artificially fed at the first visit.

Orthopædic Treatment.

The number of cases which have been under treatment during the year was 29. Of these, 14 were new cases, and during the same period 5 were discharged.

Congenital conditions, usually involving the feet or lower extremities, form the largest group, i.e., 21, rickets 6, birth injuries 1, Poliomyelitis 1.

The cost to this Authority was—

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Clinic	£ 12 18 6	£ 15 5 0	£ 12 12 6	£ 8 3 3
Hospital ...	£ 13 18 2	—	£ 14 18 11	£ 1 11 6
	£ 26 16 8	£ 15 5 0	£ 27 11 5	£ 9 14 9

Total—£79/7/10.

Maternity Beds.

Difficult cases are admitted to the General Infirmary and also to the County Institution, where also a number of cases are dealt with who come from unsatisfactory homes.

Maternal Mortality.

The investigation of maternal deaths is carried out by the M.O.H. under a scheme, organised by the County M.O.H.,

which secures the co-operation of the Inspectors of Midwives who also inquire into cases of Puerperal fever and Puerperal pyrexia.

Co-ordination with the School Medical Service.

Abnormal children are, as far as possible, reported to the School Medical Department on reaching school age.

Information with regard to houses infected with Measles and Whooping cough is largely derived from reports received from the school teachers by arrangement with the School Medical Department, and any homes where there are children under five are visited by one of the Health Visitors.

PUBLICITY.

The year 1937 has witnessed an innovation on the part of the Ministry of Health. Although always encouraging local publicity in the promotion of social service, it has this year given support to an organised effort throughout the country extending from October to March, and covering all the social services, e.g., Public Health, National Insurance, Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, and Schools.

The preparation of propaganda has been conducted by the Central Council for Health Education. The Borough Council participated in the scheme, but, as they control part only of the social services of the area, they have restricted their efforts to distributing folders to all households, exhibiting posters on hoardings, works, and offices, and the insertion of bookmarks in all books issued from the Public Libraries.

This intensification of propaganda may be suited to present times, but it is essential that the personal visitation to the homes by the Health Visitor, Sanitary Inspector, and social worker, be continued, and the services rendered to the community by the Council in their public health, housing, and scavenging schemes, and their gas, electricity, and water supply undertakings, if it is to have any degree of permanency.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

Air Raid Precautions have loomed large as a problem, perhaps unduly, because of its newness and its complexity, and because it is an addition to the services expected of your Officers.

Briefly, progress of the scheme may be stated as follows:

1. Enlistment of the services of the Red Cross organisation, under Dr. Reid, for the training of the volunteers.
2. The selection of rooms and appliances for the training of volunteers.
3. Enrolment and classification of those willing to attend First Aid classes.
4. The formation of the first class.
5. Provisional selection of Aid Posts.
6. Attendance at a course of lectures held in the Infirmary under the British Medical Association scheme.

My thanks are especially due to Dr. Reid, the County Superintendent of the Red Cross, and the local members for their help and advice at all times, and to Mr. Wickham for his assistance in the selection of and preliminary survey of the Aid Posts.

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